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fourth of the material has gone under review. We have had access to the numerous authentic specimens in the herbarium of Sir Wm. Hooker," and "Prof. Torrey has kindly presented us the collection given him by Schweinitz." The authors separate and describe two species as new; and a few new species are published from Schweinitz' MS. descriptions. All commented on are before No. 728 of the *Synopsis Fungorum*, etc., that is, up to and including *Thelephora*.

NEW LITERATURE.

BY W. A. KELLERMAN.

"FUNGI WHICH CAUSE DECAY IN TIMBER." By P. H. Dudley. Journal of the New York Microscopical Society, February, 1886.

The fungus, *Lentinus lepideus*, Fr., was found to be very destructive to railway sleepers, bridge timbers and planks made of yellow, or Georgia pine (*Pinus palustris*, Mill.). Its whitish, delicate mycelium secretes fluids possessing acid re-actions, readily softens the thin-walled tracheides, causing their decomposition. "Decomposition of the wood, the so-called 'Dry-rot,'—which, contrary to the general opinion, never takes place in the absence of moisture—as rapidly ensues as the development of the mycelium (which secretes enough moisture for its own nourishment), unless the moisture be dried by external agencies. In railway sleepers, as soon as the thin-walled tracheides are softened by the action of the fungus, larvæ, from one-sixteenth to one-eighth of an inch long, perforate and consume them, leaving the thick-walled, harder cells in the condition of a series of shells, rendering the sleeper useless in less time than would the action of the fungus alone."

"THE MYCOLOGIC FLORA OF THE MIAMI VALLEY." By A. P. Morgan. Polyporei concluded. The Journal of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History, Vol. IX, No. 1. April, 1886, pp. 1-8.

The following are described: *Trametes*, with six species; *Dædalea*, with four species; *Favolus*, with one species; *Merulius*, with six species; *Porothelium*, with one species; and *Solenia*, with two species.

"CHAMPIGNOUS PARASITES DES PHANEROGAMES EXOTIQUES," par M. N. Patouillard. *Revue Mycologique*, 1er Avril, 1886.

"FUNGI GALLICI EXSICCATI," Centurie, XXXVIIe. C. Roumeguere. 1. c.

"SUR QUELQUES DÉFORMATIONS DES PHANEROGAMES CAUSÉES PAR LES CHAMPIGNOUS PARASITES; par M. E. Rostrup. 1. c.

"BOMMERELLA, NOUVEAU GENRE DE PYRENOAMYCETES." El. Marchel. 1. c.

Bommerella, nov. gen. (*Etym.* a dom. E. Bommer peritissima mycologa Bruxellensi). Fungus conidiophorus *Oosporam* exhibens. Perithecia superficialia, sparsa, ostiolata, contextu, parenchymato fuligineo, seltis vestita. Asci octospori, pedicellati, aparaphysati. Sporæ eximie triangulares, depressæ.